

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY BONN

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TAGS: EIND, OECD

SUBJECT: CO-CHAIRMANSHIP OECD JOINT WORKING PARTY ON
TECHNOLOGY AND THE STRUCTURAL ADAPTATION OF INDUSTRY

1. ON AUGUST 25, DAVID A. PETERSON OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE SENT FOLLOWING LETTER TO MR. A. COESSENS,
DIRECTEUR GENERAL DE L'INDUSTRIE, MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES
ECONOMIQUES, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE OECD
INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

2. I AM TAKING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK YOUR VIEWS
REGARDING THE DESIRABLE FORM OF U.S. PARTICIPATION IN THE
JOINT WORKING PARTY ON TECHNOLOGY AND THE STRUCTURAL
ADAPTATION ON INDUSTRY.

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AS YOU KNOW, MR. SHERWIN SERVED, ALONG WITH MR. SCHEIDEMANN

OF THE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL POLICY, AS CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT WORKING PARTY. MR. MURRY S. SCUREMAN, ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF DOMESTIC COMMERCE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, HAS NOT YET HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE PERSONALLY IN OECD ACTIVITIES. WE THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT IT MAY NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR HIM TO ASSUME THE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP, AND THAT IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE TIMELY AND SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF

THE PROJECT IF MR. SCHEIDEMANN WERE ASKED TO SERVE AS SOLE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT WORKING PARTY.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE JOINT WORKING PARTY AND WE PLAN TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY IN THAT BODY TO ASSIST IN WHATEVER WAY WE CAN IN PRODUCING A FIRST-RATE REPORT.

WE ARE COGNIZANT OF OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE IN THIS AREA, AND WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS CONCERNING THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THIS IMPORTANT WORKING PARTY.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY BRUSSELS CONTACT MR. COESSENS. CITING SHORT TIME UNTIL MEETING OF JOINT WORKING PARTY (SEPTEMBER 23-24), EMBOFF SHOULD DETERMINE IF COESSENS IS ABLE TO RESPOND TO LETTER. APPROACH SHOULD BE LOW KEY AND ACKNOWLEDGE DIFFICULTIES CAUSED BY VACATIONS. IF EMBOFF IS ASKED ABOUT USG ATTITUDE TOWARD JOINT WORKING PARTY, EMBOFF SHOULD REPEAT ASSURANCES IN LETTER THAT USG PLANS CONTINUED ACTIVE PARTICIPATION. HABIB

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